

# Central Indiana

## July 2016

### Climate Summary

*49<sup>th</sup> Warmest on record at Indianapolis*

*34<sup>th</sup> Wettest July on record at Indianapolis*

#### Temperatures

The presence of a pesky upper level low that spread clouds and scattered showers across the Ohio Valley led to a cool start to the month. Highs generally remained under 80 through the 4<sup>th</sup>, with several locations not able to get out of the 60s on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. The high of 76 at Indianapolis on July 4 made for one of the cooler Independence Days on record and coolest since 2009 when the high was only 70 degrees.

Temperatures returned to more typical levels for July beginning on the 5<sup>th</sup> and continuing through the following one to two weeks with highs primarily in the mid and upper 80s and lows generally in the mid and upper 60s. The warmest stretch of weather through the month commenced on the 21<sup>st</sup> and continued into the last week of the month. Many areas experienced five to six consecutive days with highs at or above 90 degrees. High humidity levels produced heat indices at or above 100 degrees throughout the heat wave as well.

Indianapolis made it into the 90s on seven days throughout the month, the most 90 degrees days in July since the very hot July in 2012. Indianapolis also had a streak that lasted nearly 11 consecutive days from the 18<sup>th</sup> through the 28<sup>th</sup> where temperatures never fell below 70 degrees. This was the longest streak of temperatures at or above 70 degrees since the 22 day stretch from June 28 through July 19 in 2012.

Site	July 2016 Avg Temp	July 2016 Difference from Normal	Highest Temperature	Lowest Temperature
Indianapolis	76.5	<b>+1.1</b>	92 on 24	53 on 2
Lafayette	73.5	<b>-1.1</b>	91 on 24	50 on 2
Muncie	75.7	<b>+1.3</b>	94 on 24	50 on 2
Terre Haute	76.0	<b>+1.0</b>	92 on 24	51 on 2
Bloomington	75.4	<b>+1.5</b>	92 on 23	50 on 2
Shelbyville	76.1	<b>+2.0</b>	93 on 24	50 on 2
Indy – Eagle Crk.	76.8	<b>+1.6</b>	93 on 24	52 on 2

At Indianapolis, there were 21 days with above normal average temperatures, 8 days with below normal average temperatures and 2 days with normal average temperatures.

July 2016 was the 49<sup>th</sup> warmest in the Indianapolis area since 1871.

## Precipitation

Once again monthly rainfall during July varied widely across the state. July 2016 was among the driest Julys of record for northeast Indiana and among the wettest Julys for portions of southern Indiana. Monthly totals ranged from slightly over an inch in northeast Indiana to more than 12 inches southern Indiana.

Rainfall was generally normal to above normal in western, central and southern Indiana where most areas received 4 to 10 inches for the month. Much of north central, northeast and east central portions of the state were drier than normal where many locations received only 1.5 to 4 inches of rainfall during July.

Heavy rainfall was frequent during July. Daily rainfall of an inch or more of rain occurred somewhere in the state on more than 16 days of the month. The longest state wide dry spell was from the 9<sup>th</sup> through the 11<sup>th</sup> and lasted less than 4 days.

There were several areal or flash flood events during July following 3 inches or more of rainfall. These include the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> in southwest Indiana, the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in west central Indiana, the 18<sup>th</sup> in west central and central Indiana, the 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> in southern Indiana and the 29<sup>th</sup> in central Indiana. The East Fork White River approached flood stage during the morning of the 27<sup>th</sup> after 3 to more than 5 inches of rainfall in southeast Bartholomew, southern Decatur and northern Jennings Counties during the 26<sup>th</sup>.

At the end of July, abnormally dry conditions persisted in portions of northeast and east central Indiana. This totaled about 10 percent of the state.

Site	July 2016 Precipitation	July 2016 Difference from Normal	Wettest Day	Longest Dry Stretch
Indianapolis	5.66	<b>+1.11</b>	2.71 on 18	5 days 7-11
Lafayette	4.50	<b>+0.53</b>	2.16 on 18	5 days 7-11
Muncie	2.33	<b>-2.05</b>	0.93 on 13	6 days 23-29
Terre Haute	7.32	<b>+2.53</b>	1.68 on 3	3 days 9-11, 15-17 and 23-25
Bloomington	6.35	<b>+1.46</b>	1.45 on 28	3 days 9-11, 15-17 and 23-25
Shelbyville	5.29	<b>+0.58</b>	1.15 on 18	5 days 7-11
Indy – Eagle Crk.	5.36	<b>+1.10</b>	2.29 on 18	5 days 7-11

July 2016 was the 34<sup>th</sup> wettest July in the Indianapolis area since weather records began in 1871.

## Severe Weather

Scattered strong to severe thunderstorms impacted parts of central Indiana throughout the month of July. The biggest severe weather event of the month occurred during the afternoon and evening of the 13<sup>th</sup> as a series of upper level disturbances interacted with a very moist and unstable airmass over the region. Storms produced damaging winds, large hail up to golf ball size and heavy rainfall from mid afternoon through the evening. Winds gusted to 61 mph at Indianapolis International Airport as the storms came through the metro area. For more information on this event, please visit

<http://www.weather.gov/ind/jul132016severe>.

For information on severe weather in other areas during July, visit the Storm Prediction Center “Severe Weather Event Summaries” website at

<http://www.spc.noaa.gov/climo/online/>.

## Miscellaneous

The maximum wind gust at the Indianapolis International Airport was 61 mph from the west-southwest on the 13<sup>th</sup> as severe thunderstorms moved through the Indianapolis metro area. Fog or haze was reported at Indianapolis on 15 days this month, with dense fog on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Thunder was reported at Indianapolis on 6 days in July.

## August 2016 Outlook

The official outlook for August 2016 from the Climate Prediction Center indicates a slightly greater chance of near to above normal temperatures across central Indiana. At Indianapolis, the average temperature for the month is 74.2 degrees. A greater chance of above average precipitation exists for central Indiana as well. The average precipitation for August at Indianapolis is 3.13”.

***Data prepared by the Indianapolis Forecast Office.***